

**Angelo J. Bello**  
**1437 79th Street**  
**Brooklyn, New York 11228**

January 25, 2002

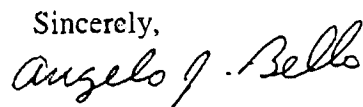
Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to express my opinion on the recent settlement in the Microsoft antitrust case. This case needs to be ended and the current settlement is a good solution. There should be no question that this settlement serves the public interest, Microsoft is giving up so much in this case and it is only fair to leave them alone now.

I am a computer technician and I install computers for my employer as well as for friends, family and other personal business associates. We don't solely rely on Microsoft's products, but rather use a combination of software products. We have complete freedom to choose to use other products and have obviously done so with no problems. Additionally, when using the MS windows platform, never once was I, nor anyone I know, prohibited from installing or using other products. As a successful company, when providing a product, why would you want to include a competitors' product within your own? That's not to say that you are stopping from adding or installing others'. I don't see that Microsoft has acted unfairly, they are merely a hugely successful company who made smart business decisions to try and maintain that success. They are now being punished because less successful companies wanted a part of it and didn't have the means to step up to Microsoft without bringing the courts and lawyers into the process.

As it stands, the settlement already is more than fair. This issue needs to be ended and maintaining the settlement is the right thing to do. It indeed serves the public interest and it indeed addresses the issues brought up by Microsoft's competitors. Please allow this settlement to be the end of this drawn-out lawsuit. Our economy can't stand any further delay in this issue.

Sincerely,  
  
Angelo J. Bello